SB 140 (Kehoe) Renewable Diesel Standards Act

Background:

- California consumes 4 billion gallons of diesel fuel per year, including 1 billion in farming use. Currently, in-state supply does not keep up with demand and therefore 10 percent of California's diesel fuel supply must be imported by truck or ships from abroad.
- Dwindling domestic oil supplies exacerbates California's vulnerability to oil price fluctuations and rapid gas and diesel price spikes. The state has no program requiring the use of renewable diesel fuel.

SB 140 does the following:

- Requires the California Air Resources Board to conduct an assessment of bio-diesel fuel to ensure it maintains or improves environmental quality. If the assessment concludes the use of renewable diesel is beneficial, the board will modify the definition of diesel to include 2 percent renewable diesel. Two years later it will increase to 5 percent.
- Grants the California Energy Commission and Air Resources Board the power to suspend the renewable diesel fuel requirement if certain performance, supply or environmental problems arise.